AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 2, beginning at line 9, amend the paragraph as follows:

--The availability of various types of communication devices produces a need to have these devices interact with each other in a manner which is cost efficient and which can be easily implemented. Such communication can occur between two or more terminal devices 216 (e.g. telephones, computers, printers, facsimile machines, personal digital assistants (PDAs), etc.) as shown in Fig. 2 by wired connection such as by connecting electrical conductors to the devices, or by wireless communication using infrared signals or wireless frequency (RF) signals. For many applications, RF signals are preferred as they do not require line-of-sight interaction between a transmitter and a receiver of a terminal device pair.--

On page 2, beginning on line 17, amend the paragraph as follows:

--Recently, low power RF systems have been proposed for providing communications between a plurality of transceivers through a short range link having a broadcast range of several meters. One such local RF system is currently under development and is referred to as "Bluetooth". This system will be commercially available in the near future and is designed to operate in the open spectrum, (around 2.4 gigahertz). The Bluetooth system will allow for devices such as mobile phones, computers, and other types of terminal devices 216 in Fig. 2 which are located within an operable range of the RF system to communicate with each other.--

On page 3, beginning on line 4, amend the paragraph as follows:

--Wireless relay networks also exist which, in effect, extend an operating range of a local RF system by utilizing relay devices to interface with and provide communication between two or more terminal devices 216 in Fig. 2. Such a network is disclosed in PCT Application No. WO 98/17032 wherein a plurality of communication nodes are wirelessly connected to each other and to a host device for providing numerous communication links for data to be communicated between the host and terminal devices 216 in Fig. 2 interfaced with the nodes. A drawback of such a system, however, is that it requires manual entry of configuration information when the complement of relay devices is established or altered. Another drawback of such a system is that a foreign relay device can insinuate itself into a network.--

On page 9, beginning on line 7, amend the paragraph, as follows:

--Fig. ~~1~~ 1A is a block diagram of a short-range radio-frequency (RF) relay device 100 for use as a node in a short-range RF network according to one embodiment of the present invention. Each node 100 is equipped with at least one RF communication circuit. In one embodiment, the RF communication circuits are integrated-circuit chips conforming to the Bluetooth (BT) specification. Every node 100 is equipped with a chip 102 which, by means to be described below, becomes a slave (S). A slave chip receives and responds to paging messages from a network host node or from other nodes 100. In a present embodiment, the paging messages do not necessarily conform to the standards set forth in the Bluetooth specification. A node 100 may also be equipped with a second chip 104 to serve as a master (M), which may page other nodes 100. Chips 102 and 104 enable a node 100 to be a node on a network backbone. The allocation shown in Fig. 1A of chip 102 as slave and chip 104 as master is merely exemplary. The determination of which functions as the slave and which as the master is made at the time of initializing the network, to be discussed further below. In an alternative embodiment, a single chip may participate in two networks in a multiplex manner, sometimes functioning in one "piconet" and sometimes in the other. The composite of the two or more piconets is known as a "scatternet".

On page 13, beginning on line 20, amend the paragraph as follows:

--Figs. 4A-4F depict the physical arrangement of the exemplary network block-diagrammed in Fig. 2. Locations of host 204 and ~~satellites~~ nodes 100-1 through 100-4 are shown in each of Fig. 4A through 4F. Fig. 4A shows the RF coverage areas of host 204 and the four said ~~satellites~~ nodes. Fig 4B shows only the coverage area of host 204; Fig. 4C, ~~satellite~~ node 100-1; Fig. 4D, ~~satellite~~ node 100-2; Fig. 4E, ~~satellite~~ node 100-3; Fig. 4F shows only the coverage area of ~~satellite~~ node 100-4.--